GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2193
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
DEATH OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS
ALE NARENDRA;ARUN KUMAR;JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI;RENU KUMARI SINGH;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SRINIVASULU KALAVA;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE;UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest census records of important wild animals like lions/Asiatic lions, tigers, tigresses, bears, rhinos, elephants etc. and birds in the country, State/Sanctuary-wise;

(b) the extent of increase/decrease recorded in their population during each of the last five years;

(c) whether a large number of these animals and birds have been killed or died during the last three years as well as current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, category-wise and National Zoological Park/Sanctuary/Reserve-wise;

(e) the outcome of inquiries conducted, if any, and the action taken by the Government in each of the incidents; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for their conservation and protection?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) & (b) The estimation of population for various species of wild animals and birds are not done on yearly basis. These are generally carried out on a cycle of four to five years. The latest estimate of the population of important species of wild animals for last two operations is given in Annexure I.

(c) & (d) The information regarding animals killed on sanctuary wise/reserve-wise basis are not available. However, details of the number of animals killed or died during the last three years and the current year are given in Annexure II. The Number of deaths of tigers, bears, rhinos and birds in National Zoological Park for the last three years is also given in Annexure II.
Reported cases of poaching and seizure of bear parts are insignificant. The data regarding death of birds is also not collated and compiled at the level of Union Government. However, 388 deaths of peacocks and 12 deaths of saras have been reported from different parts of the country during the last three years.

(e) The responsibility of detection, investigation and prosecution of the offenders in poaching cases lies with the State Governments. A few important cases have been handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation for investigation. The details of these cases and the action taken are as follows:

S.No	Case detected	Date	Action taken
1	Seizure of 3 nos. of tiger skins, 50 nos. of leopard skins and 5 nos. of otter skins at Sahibabad, Uttar Pradesh	18.12.1999	Complaint filed in the Court
2	Seizure of 4 nos. of tiger skins, 70 nos. of leopard skins, 18000 nos. of leopard claws, 132 nos. of tiger claws and 221 nos. of black buck skins at Khaga	12.1.2000	Complaint filed in the Court
3.	Seizure of 50 nos.of leopard skins at Haldwani	6.5.2000	Legal action initiated by CBI

4. Seizure of 30 nos.of leopard skins at Haldwani 21.5.2000 Legal action initiated
by CBI

5. Seizure of 70 shawls, 26 pure shahtooh and 2.2.2001 Legal action initiated
44 suspected shahtoosh shawls at Delhi by CBI

6. Seizure of 1 nos. of tiger skin, 5 nos. of 21.3.2001 Legal action initiated
tiger skulls, 10 nos. of tiger claws, 23 kgs. by CBI
of tiger bones, 3 nos. of tiger teeth and
4 nos. of leopard skins at Nagpur

(f) The steps taken by the Government for conservation and protection of animals and birds in sanctuaries and reserves are indicated in Annexure-III.

ANNEXURE -I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a)&(b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2193 3.12.2001 REGARDING DEATHS OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS POPULATION CENSUS OF IMPORTANT WILD ANIMALS

STATE WISE DETAILS

S.No	Name of State	Tiger		Leopard		Lion		Elephnt		Rhino
		1993	1997	1993	1997	1995	2000	1993	1997	1993 1998/99
1	Andhra Pradesh	197	171	152	138	Nil	Nil	46	57	Nil Nil
2	Arunachal Pr.+	180	180	98	98+	Nil	Nil	2500	2102	Nil
3	Assam	325	458	246	246+	Nil	5500	5312	1440	1684
4	Bihar/Jharkhand	137	103	203	203+	Nil	550	618	Nil	
5	Goa/Daman & Diu	3	6	31	25	Nil	Nil	Nil		
6	Gujarat	5	1	772	832	304	310-320	Nil	Nil	
7	Haryana+	Nil	Nil	25	25+	Nil	Nil	Nil		
8	Himachal Pr+	Nil	Nil	821	821+	Nil	Nil	Nil		
9	Karnataka+	305	350	455	620	Nil	5500	6088	Nil	
10	Kerala	57	73	16	NA	Nil	3500	5737	Nil	
11	M.P./Chatisgarh	912	927	1700	1851	Nil	Nil	Nil		
12	Maharashtra	276	257	417	431	Nil	Nil	Nil		
13	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
13	Meghalaya	53	63	Nil	Nil	Nil	2750	1840	Nil	
14	Mizoram	28	12	49	28	Nil	Nil	Nil		
15	Nagaland+	83	83	Nil	Nil	147	Nil			
16	Orissa	226	194	378	422	Nil	1750	1827	Nil	
17	Rajasthan	64	58	475	474	Nil	Nil	Nil		
18	Sikkim+	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil			
19	Tamil Nadu	97	62	138	110	Nil	2400	2971	Nil	
20	Tripura+	Nil	Nil	18	18+	Nil	Nil	Nil		
21	UP/Uttaranchal	465	475	711	1412	Nil	845	1984	12	13
22	West Bengal	335	361	108	108+	Nil	200	327	44	120
23	D&N Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	15	Nil	Nil	Nil		
	Total	3750	3836	6828	7273	310-320	25541	29010	1496	1817

+ Population census in Arunachal, Nagaland and Sikkim have not been done.

The census fig.quoted by these States during 1993 has been incorporated in 1997 also

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c)&(d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2193 FO 3.12.2001 REGARDING `DEATH OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS`

Reported cases of Tiger Poaching

State	1998	1999	2000	2001
Andhra Pradesh	-	2(1 in Nagarjun sagar seized at Srisailam TR)	4(1 skin in Nagarjunsagar TR)	1(1 in Kawal WLS)
Assam	-	Nil	4(1 in Orang WLS)	Nil
Delhi	2 (skins)	1	2	
Madhya Pradesh	1(skin)	9(2 in Bandhavgarh TR) 4(1 in Kanha NP & 1 in Bandhavgarh TR)	2(1 in Pench NP)	
Orissa	-	1(1in Satkosia WLS)		
Maharashtra	1(skin)	3(2 in Melghat TR & 1 in Andheri TR)	4	11(2 in Tadoba NP)
Tamil Nadu	-	2		
Uttar Pradesh	3(skins)	14(1 in Rajaji NP) Katarniaghat WLS & 2 in Dudhwa NP)	12(2 in WLS &1 in Dudhwa NP)	18(1 in Katarniaghat
West Bengal	2(skins)	6(2 in Sunderban TR)	7(4 in Sunderban TR)	
Kerala	-	3		
Rajasthan	-	2		
Karnataka	5 (skins)	-	-	-
Total	14	38	39	35

Reported cases of Lion poaching

State	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
Gujarat(Gir Forest)	Nil	2	1

Reported cases of Leopard Poaching

State	1998	1999	2000	2001
Uttar Pradesh	13 (skins)	56	166	28(1 in Rajaji NP)
Andhra Pradesh	-	1(Kawal WLS)	5(1 in	

Pocharam WLS)
Goa - 1
Rajasthan - 4 1 2
Madhya Pradesh 1(skin) 15(3 in 9
Achanakmar WLS,
1in Bori WLS &
1 in Sitanadi
WLS)

Maharashtra 3(skins) 2 5 6
Himachal Pradesh 8 (skins) 1 1(1 in ChailWLS)
Jammu & Kashmir - 1
Assam - 2
Gujarat - 1(Gir NP/WLS)
Delhi 3(skins) 2 6
Punjab - 8
Tamilnadu - 1 26
Total 28 80 201 69

Reported cases of Elephant Poaching

State 1998-99 99-2000 2000-2001

Assam 2 2(1 in 3(3 in Manas WLS)
Pobitora WLS)

Bihar 1 (in 1(in 0
Palamau NP) Palamau NP)

Karnataka 27 16 19
Kerala 4 1 1
Meghalaya 2 2 0
Orissa 14(1 in Kuldiha 4 3
WLS,1 in
Simlipal WLS)

Tamilnadu 12 5 7
Uttar Pradesh 1 0 5(in Corbett NP)
West Bengal 4(3 in 9(4 in Buxa TR 3(2 in BuxaTR)
Jaldapara WLS) & 1 in
Mahananda WLS)

TOTAL 66 41 41

Reported cases of Rhino Poaching

Year No.of NP/WLS State
Rhinos
Poached

1998-99 0 Jaldapara WLS West Bengal
1999-00 1 Jaldapara WLS West Bengal
2000-01 1 Jaldapara WLS West Bengal

1998 8 Kaziranga NP Assam
1998 12 Orang NP Assam
1998 4 Pobitora WLS Assam
1998 4 Other areas Assam

1999 4 Kaziranga NP Assam
1999 7 Orang NP Assam
1999 6 Pobitora WLS Assam
1999 2 Other areas Assam

2000 4 Kaziranga NP Assam
2000 8 Orang NP Assam
2000 2 Pobitora WLS Assam
2000 3 Other areas Assam

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c)&(d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2193 FOR 3.12.2001 REGARDING `DEATH OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS`

S.No.	Year	Tiger	Bear	Rhino	Birds	Total
1.	1998-99	Nil	Nil	01	36	37
2.	1999-2000	Nil	02	Nil	36	38
3.	2000-01	07	01	02	35	45

ANNEXURE - III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (f) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2193 FOR 3.12.20 REGARDING `DEATH OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS`.

The steps taken by the Government for conservation and protection of animals and birds in sanctuaries and reserves are:

(1) Steps taken at the State level:

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(2) Steps taken at National level

i. Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

ii. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

iii. Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising `Strike Forces` and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.

iv. A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

v. Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

vi. A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and out side protected areas.

vii. Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching

and illegal trade in wildlife.

(3) Steps taken at International level.

i. Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

ii. To control transboundary trade a protocol has been signed with Peoples` Republic of China and a MOU has been signed with His Majesty`s Government of Nepal.

iii. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.